



**Command Sergeant Major, Army National Guard**

**CSM John D. Gipe**



Army National Guard Command Sergeant Major John D. Gipe was selected as the 8th Command Sergeant Major of the Army National Guard on November 7, 2004.

In this position, CSM Gipe serves as the Army National Guard Director's personal advisor on all enlisted matters, with special emphasis on quality of life and training. He also acts as a representative and advocate for the 50 states, three territories and the District of Columbia to the Army leadership and Congress.

The CSM spends the majority of his time visiting soldiers deployed around the world, observing training and visiting schools. He sits on several councils and boards that make decisions affecting soldiers, units and families. His interaction with other United States and foreign military services provides valuable insight into joint and combined operations.

His military education includes the Primary Leadership Development Course, Basic Noncommissioned Officers Course, Advanced Noncommissioned Officers Course and the Sergeants Major Course.

He served a short three-month tour with the United States Central Command (CENTCOM) Area of Responsibility (AOR) prior to assuming duty as the Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Army National Guard on 20 June 2005.

Prior to joining the full-time force, CSM Gipe worked as a freight train engineer with CSX. He is currently on a military leave of absence.

For the twenty years before he came to Washington, D.C., CSM Gipe served in a traditional status with the Kentucky Army National Guard in positions of increasingly greater responsibility. He began his career as a member of Scout Platoon, Combat Support Company, 2/123<sup>rd</sup> Armor Battalion. He became Scout Section Leader and Scout Platoon Sergeant of Detachment 1, 2/123<sup>rd</sup> Armor Battalion. Afterward he served as First Sergeant, Operations Sergeant Major, Noncommissioned Officer Academy Commandant, and Command Sergeant Major, 238<sup>th</sup> Regiment; culminating in his selection as the Kentucky State Command Sergeant Major in 2002.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, and the Air Assault Badge.

CSM Gipe resides in Arlington, Va., with his wife and daughter.

